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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: Group: Attorney Docket # 1647

Applicant(s) : LUCAS, B., ET AL

Serial No. :

Filed :

For : MOUNT FOR AN ADJUSTABLE HOUSING E

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

August 15, 2001

Honorable Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

SIRS:

_____ In accordance with the Duty of Disclosure, Applicant(s) submit(s) herewith a copy of a Foreign Search Report in a counterpart application and copies of the reference(s) indicated therein.

____ In the event that the Foreign Search Report is in a foreign language, a translation thereof is herewith submitted.

 X Attached hereto is a FORM PTO 1449 listing the references.

X Attached hereto is a copy of a reference cited in the specification of the application as filed. The specification itself recites the relevance of these documents.

_____Applicant petitions for consideration of this Information Disclosure Statement since it is being submitted after receipt of an office action and submits herewith the required fee. If this fee is missing or insufficient, then authorization is given to debit the account of the undersigned: 19-4675.

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- ____ Attached hereto are copies of references cited which may be pertinent to this application. Since the references are in the English language, no statement of relevance is submitted.
- ____ Attached hereto is a copy of the Office Action issued in the corresponding German application, together with a translation thereof and copies of the references cited therein. A list of the cited references is also attached.
- ____ Attached hereto copies of references cited which may be pertinent to this application. An English translation of the references is also attached.
- ____ Attached hereto is a Statement of Relevancy and copies of references cited therein.
- X These references were sent to the USPTO by WIPO and are in the file of this application.
- X The relevancy of the prior art is explained in the applicant's letter to the German Patent Office of which a translation is attached.

Respectfully submitted,


Michael J. Striker
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Reg. No. 27233

[response to Office Action of 19 Jan 2000]

Please find enclosed the new claims which should form the basis for the further pursuit of the patent process. The new claim 1 is essentially comprised of the characteristics of the original claims 1, 3, and 4. It is expressed in a single piece, but is still based on the reference 1 mentioned in the introduction to the specification (DE 197 39 298 C1). The other previous claims follow the new claim 1, with appropriate renumbering. The word "Justage" [adjustment; justification; trimming] has been replaced with the word "Justieren" [adjustment; calibration]. For the sake of clarity, the changes were made by hand; corresponding replacement pages are also enclosed. In order to not limit the patent strictly to a right angle, the wording "approximately at a right angle" in claim 2 was retained.

The essence of the invention is the overlapping of the rotation of the adjusting screw 11 and the simultaneously occurring translation of this adjusting screw. The structural design required for this is indicated in the new claim 1. If the shaft 15 which is fastened to the mount 14 is turned, then the bevel gear 17 affixed to the shaft 15 is turned. This in turn moves the bevel gear 18. Due to the form-fitting connection, the adjusting screw 11 is consequently also moved. The adjusting screw 11 is also connected to the mount 14, for example by means of a self-channeling thread so that the adjusting screw 11 moves forward or backward in relation to the mount 14 (i.e. in a translatory fashion). According to the embodiments in the prior art, for example in reference 2 on the top of page 376 (lines 1 to 9), the linkage would actually be obstructed. In the subject of the application, the obstruction is now

prevented by virtue of the fact that the bevel gear 18 is in fact connected to the adjusting screw 11 with positive engagement in terms of rotation, but not in terms of the translatory motion. These facts have now been emphasized in the new claim 1.

Furthermore, it should be noted in connection with reference 2 (German book: Bauelemente der Feinmechanik [Fundamentals of Precision Mechanics] Richter, O., publ. Voss, R.) that in the linkages proposed there, only the transmission of a motion to a second element is indicated and the speed increasing ratios required for this are discussed. In fact, the fine adjustment of devices is mentioned on page 377, paragraph 3; however, the apparatuses proposed there give no indication of the special structural design of the new claim 1. Instead, reference 2 once more refers to the tightness.

References 3 (DE 197 57 005 A1) and 4 (DE 196 42 810 C1) each only propose apparatuses for translatory motion and adjustment.

The subject of reference 5 (DE 195 20 427 A1) is a kinematic mount that can be adjusted from above. In this connection, the alignment of the inserted object along two non-parallel axes is changed within the plane of the mounted object. A rotation with a simultaneously occurring translation movement, however, is not proposed here either. In the apparatus according to reference 6 (DE 41 23 656 A1), a rotary motion is converted to a longitudinal motion. In this instance, it is an apparatus for lifting a movable part, where the height adjustment takes place with the aid of a toothed gear. Furthermore, references 7 (DE 33 06 440

C1) and 8 (DE 37 05 982 A1) disclose particularly embodied worm gears. However, the comments regarding reference 2 also apply here.

The applicant requests that the examination process be pursued with the documents now instant and that the expectation of the granting of a patent be established. The applicant will then further rework the introduction to the specification with an acknowledgment of the references determined in the examination process. In aid thereof, the applicant requests that an appointment be set for a hearing. However, the applicant would like to set up the appointment time with you by telephone.